

The INTERCHANGE

Monthly Newsletter for State Employees Prepared by State Employees



President Attends Black Expo Corporate Luncheon

President Bush accepted Governor Mitch Daniels' invitation to visit Indianapolis to attend the Indiana Black Expo (IBE) Corporate Luncheon on July 14. Bush was the first president ever to address the IBE.

"I invited President Bush because I believe it is time this great event was honored with a presidential visit. I am trying to speak to the need for Indiana to be unified across all lines, and I know the President shares those thoughts," said Governor Daniels.



President Bush addressed the IBE corporate luncheon in a speech that focused on education and business opportunities for African-Americans.

Bush emphasized the positive in his address, speaking of a sense of optimism about the future. His speech focused on education and the achievements of the No Child Left Behind Act, personal accounts for Social Security, growing the nation's economy and making troubled neighborhoods safe.

The IBE is the largest African-American event in the nation and includes business workshops, health and wellness information, employment opportunities, spiritual enrichment, and a number of other events and activities.

Governor Announces New Wellness Program: "In Shape, Indiana"

Governor Mitch Daniels is asking Hoosiers to get involved in a new state initiative that will help improve the health status of Indiana and improve individual fitness. He introduced INShape Indiana last month, a Web-based program that connects people with local services and events that will help them make healthy choices to improve their quality of life.

"Adopting a healthy lifestyle is good for you and good for Indiana," said the governor during the launch of the program at the National Institute for Fitness and Health in Indianapolis. "Too many Hoosiers are losing years because they do not embrace healthy habits. And, health care costs in Indiana are among the highest in the country. Our rising cost of health insurance coverage, combined with lost productivity due to illness, has made Indiana a less desirable place to do business."

According to statistics collected by the Department of Health, Indiana is the fourth most obese state, 26 percent of adult Hoosiers report no regular physical activity and nearly 78 percent consume less than

five servings of fruits and vegetables each day. In addition, 25 percent of Indiana adults smoke cigarettes.

"Millions of Hoosiers can help our economic comeback gain momentum by participating in INShape Indiana," said Governor Daniels, who maintains an active workout schedule each week.

To join INShape Indiana, individuals and groups can log onto the Web site at www.inshape.IN.gov and register for free by answering a brief survey. Every two weeks participants will receive an e-mail message asking them to provide an update on their wellness progress.

The INShape Indiana Web site also serves as a clearinghouse for information on programs, activities, and events related to nutrition, physical activity, and smoking cessation from throughout the state.

"The purpose of INShape Indiana is to empower individuals to adopt healthy behaviors and improve their quality of life," said Dr. Judith A. Monroe, State Health

Commissioner. "Ultimately, we want to celebrate the success of those who have made the commitment to a healthy lifestyle."

A series of incentives including free access to the Indiana State Parks, ice skating at the Indiana State Fairgrounds, recognition ceremonies, and discounts on produce at Marsh will be used to provide motivation. Recognition programs may include such opportunities as "most participants from a community" or "fittest business".

Daniels also announced that Indiana basketball legend George McGinnis will serve as chair of the Governor's Council for Physical Fitness and Sports, and Lyn St. James will be the vice chair. Colts quarterback Peyton Manning will serve as the honorary chair.

INShape Indiana will be administered through the Governor's Council for Physical Fitness and Sports at the Indiana State Department of Health. For more information on INShape Indiana, contact the Governor's Council at (317) 233-7671.

Inspector General's Office Improving Government

After six months on the job, Indiana Inspector General (IG) David Thomas and his team of nearly 20 investigators have been busy fielding hundreds of requests for investigations. The government waste reports have caused many state agencies to research better ways to do business.

In one case, the IG's Office felt that the number of registered vehicles that have disability license plates and placards seemed high and recommended the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) conduct audits and remind license branch managers of the rules. Although his office found no specific fraud, the BMV agreed that the use of disability plates is a concern, and the agency will look into it.

In another investigation, the IG's Office found that the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (CJI) was double-paying certain hospitals for medical bills the state already paid through Medicaid. CJI is now working with Medicaid officials to stop the overpayment.

As evidence waits to be examined at the Indiana State Police (ISP) laboratory, technicians usually have no way of knowing if a defendant has plead guilty, thereby closing the case and loosing the priority of evidence testing. Knowing a case is closed would allow technicians to move those evidence samples down on their work list, focusing on more urgent evidence first. ISP is working with operators of the criminal case link system to figure out how to alert lab officials of closed cases.

And these are just a few examples. Thomas said his new agency has filled a much-needed gap, giving state employees somewhere to turn with allegations of corruption and claims of government waste.

To report waste, fraud, unethical or criminal activity in the Executive Branch of government and its agencies, contact the IG's Hotline at (317) 232-3850 or www.in.gov/ig/reporting.html.

Coming in September - E-Recruit!!

As mentioned in last month's issue and at the Human Resource (HR) Directors' Conference, the State Personnel Department is progressing toward implementation of e-recruit in early September. With the new system, applicants will be able to store an application in PeopleSoft and apply for multiple positions with just the click of the mouse! Hiring



managers and HR professionals will have the added capability of searching the system for applicants with desired credentials, as well as the added convenience of a real time job bank — no more waiting a week to post vacancies! Training on the new features will be conducted prior to implementation, so stay tuned for further details!

Rural Interstate Speed Limits Increased to 70 MPH

Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) crews were busy changing signs last month on the interstate system to reflect the increased speed limit of 70 m.p.h.

The increase only affected rural interstates. Urban areas (communities of 50,000 or more) did not change.

"We had more than 600 signs to change throughout Indiana's interstate system," said INDOT Commissioner Tom Sharp. "We continue to urge the public to pay extra attention to the posted speed limit."

INDOT employees are currently evaluating four lane divided highways in

IN Archaeology Month: September 2005

The Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology is proud to announce that September, 2005, will be the tenth annual Indiana Archaeology Month.

In Indiana, the Month provides professional archaeologists, students, historians, vocational archaeologists, and anyone interested in their heritage with an opportunity to celebrate the science of archaeology and its many contributions to our understanding of the past.

Each year various individuals, organizations, universities and museums hold events ranging from archaeological laboratory open-houses, artifact identifications, lectures on archaeological topics, archaeological excavations, and much more.

The official Indiana Archaeology Month web page (www.IN.gov/dnr/historic/archeomonth.html) provides the calendar of events, information on archaeology in Indiana, a PowerPoint slide presentation, information on how to become involved in archaeology, a monthly archaeology email newsletter, and much more. Check the web page for updated details.

For additional information contact the Archaeology Outreach Coordinator at the 402 W. Washington St., Rm 274, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739; (317) 232-1646; www.IN.gov/dnr/historic/archeomonth.html.

Indiana to determine whether or not a speed limit increase to 60 m.p.h. is warranted. This process is expected to be completed and all signs in place by the end of this month.



There's Something for Everyone at the Indiana State Fair!

The summer isn't complete without a visit to the Indiana State Fair in Indianapolis. This year's extravaganza is August 10-21, and once again offers visitors a one-of-a-kind mix of food, entertainment, agriculture and family fun.

Among this year's new attractions is the International Circus Hall of Fame's exhibit from Peru, Ind., which features elephant rides and a daily performance of a traditional circus. Also new to the Fair is

Project Bandaloop, an innovative vertical dance group that will rappel off of the 4-H Exhibit Hall during nightly performances. A new pin-framed living history barn, constructed by an Amish building crew from Middlebury, Ind., gives fairgoers a glimpse into what life was like for Hoosiers in the late 1800s.

The Marsh Grandstand continues to feature some of the best in musical entertainment with great performers like

Rascal Flatts with Blake Shelton on Thursday, August 11; Herman's Hermits starring Peter Noone on Friday, August 12; Switchfoot on Tuesday, August 16; Clay Aiken on Thursday, August 18; Alan Jackson with The Wrights on Friday, August 19; and Keith Urban with Shelly Fairchild on Sunday, August 21. Also at the Marsh Grandstand is A Prairie Home Companion – The Rhubarb Tour with Garrison Keillor on Wednesday, August 17; the PRCA Rodeo with special guest "Whiplash the Cowboy Monkey" on August 13 and 14; Ultimate Bull Riders on Sunday, August 14; and Xtreme Motocross on August 15 and 16.

In addition to these great events, the fair has unique, interactive exhibits like Little Hands on the Farm presented by Marsh Kids Club in the Pfizer Fun Park where kids ages 3 – 12 learn about life on a working farm. Another family attraction is the "Baseball—America's Game" exhibit in Indiana's Grand Hall featuring artifacts of America's favorite pastime, batting cages and radar guns to test visitors' pitching abilities.

No visit to the Indiana State Fair is complete without experiencing the newest and tastiest fair food. Favorites such as deep-fried pork tenderloins, roasted ears of corn, lemon shake-ups and elephant ears satisfy visitors' cravings each year. New food items this year include deep-fried Reese's Cups, Carolina Pork BBQ Baked Potato and State Fair Cream Puffs served at the new State Fair Bakery and Coffee Shop featuring Starbucks Coffee and Taylor's Bakery.

From national entertainment acts to agriculture to the ever-popular fair food, a visit to the Indiana State Fair is sure to be a great time for the entire family. The Indiana State Fair – what would summer be without it?

THURSDAY, AUGUST 18TH



STATE EMPLOYEE DAY AT THE INDIANA STATE FAIR

Show your State Employee Identification Badge* at the gate for your **FREE** admission to State Fair FUN!

A few highlights planned for your day at the Fair:

- **Hoosier Lottery Day** - State Employees 18 or older will receive a coupon at the gate to exchange for a free scratch-off ticket at the booth in front of the Marsh Grandstand.
- **Midway Wristband Special** - All-Day Ride Survival from Noon-11:00 pm for only \$20.00 per person.
- **New: INDOT Truck Safety "Rodeo"** from 8 am-1 pm in the infield.
- Special appearance by **Batman in the Pfizer Fun Park** from Noon-6 pm.
- **Union Federal Bank Daily Parade** at 6:30 pm along Union Federal Bank Main Street.
- **Clay Aiken** at the Marsh Grandstand at 7:30 pm.



For more information about the Indiana State Fair, please visit indianastatefair.com

**Employees who do not have a State of Indiana Identification Badge must present a current paycheck stub and photo identification at the gate for FREE admission on August 18th.*

TRAINING PROGRAMS

September 2005

Date	Time	Class	Cost
1	9:00 - 3:00	CLER Review Session** (Restricted enrollment)	Free
7	9:00 - 12:00	Short/Long Term Disability/Workers' Compensation	Free
8	9:00 - 12:00	Selection and Interviewing	Free
12	11:30 - 1:00	Basic American Sign Language* (Limited enrollment)	Free
13	9:00 - 4:00	How to Investigate Complaints of Discrimination**	Free
14	10:00 - 11:30	PERF: Your Retirement Program	Free
14	1:00 - 3:30	Hoosier S.T.A.R.T. "Are you saving enough?"	Free
15	9:00 - 3:00	Diversity in the Workplace	Free
20	8:30 - 1:00	Driver Improvement Program	Free

All classes held in the State Training Center except where noted. Required fees are noted. Obtain supervisor's approval to attend.

*Basic American Sign Language consists of 1 meeting per week for 8 consecutive weeks. Participants must commit to all sessions.

**These classes are only offered to SUPERVISOR/MANAGERS AND/OR HUMAN RESOURCES PERSONNEL.

For more information or to register, you will need to contact your agency training contact person (ATCP).



State Employee Night WITH THE INDIANAPOLIS INDIANS



Join the Indianapolis Indians on September 3, 2005 for a 5 PM Saturday night game
and take advantage of special discounts offered to Indiana State Employees.

Indians vs. Louisville Bats

Saturday, September 3rd @ 5:00 PM
Gates open at 3:30 PM

This is the Home Finale and Sky Concert Night!

To get the best seating, please order early.




A Message from the Army National Guard

As a State Employee, you already embody the ideals of professionalism and selfless service that we look for in our Indiana Army National Guard leaders. In recognition of your commitment to always putting the needs of others beyond your own, we want you to become an **Officer** in the Indiana Army National Guard through one of our commissioning programs. Through these programs, you will have the opportunity to lead and shape others to reach their potential, while you strive to be the best that **you** can be.

The Indiana Army National Guard has wonderful benefits to offer you for your service, which include: excellent part-time income, a \$6,000 cash bonus for completion of your officer basic course, great retirement pay after completing 20 years of total service time, educational benefits and more. In order to become an officer, you must be under the age of 40 and have completed at least 60 college credit hours.

There are few things in life more tragically wasted than talent. Take this opportunity to put your talent to use, and begin your journey to becoming an officer in the Indiana Army National Guard. Contact Cpt. Dan Gilbert at (260) 602-6552 for more information.

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Department Name _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

ST _____ ZIP _____

Phone # _____

E-mail Address _____

*ALL FIELDS ARE REQUIRED

For More Information Please Contact
Byron Stevens

(317) 269-3545 ext. 253
bstevens@indvindiands.com

2005 State Employee Night Options

_____ @ \$6.00 -Reserved Seat

_____ @ \$6.00 -Lawn Seat

_____ @ \$10.00 -Box Seat

Total _____ @ _____ = _____

Payment Options:

_____ Check (Make Payable to Indians Inc.)

_____ MC _____ Visa _____ Discover

_____ AMEX

Card Number _____

Exp. _____

Date _____

Name On Card _____

Signature _____

Deadline for ordering tickets is Friday, September 2nd at 5 PM
Any order received within 10 days of game will be left at will call for pickup

Please send order forms to:

Attn: State Employee Night, Indians Inc., 501 W. Maryland St. Indianapolis, IN 46225

Or fax to: (317) 269-3541

PLEASE NOTE: The Colts South Lot, located at the corner of Missouri Street and South Street, will be under construction for the new Colts Stadium and Convention Center on September 3, 2005. If you plan on attending this game, you will need to find parking on the north or west side of Victory Field.